

# County Councilman David Marks

## Fifth District Newsletter

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### **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS:**

## **COUNTY NEEDS TO STEP UP FOCUS ON NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY**

Baltimore County has a reputation for safe neighborhoods, with a well-respected police department and a lower crime rate than other jurisdictions. Since 2010, our office has worked on several public safety initiatives, [including the youth escort policy at Towson Town Center](#), which I believe have made a positive difference.

I am deeply concerned about a rash of incidents in neighborhoods from Perry Hall to Towson over the past few weeks. Other areas of Baltimore County are experiencing a similar uptick in crime. The county needs to step up its focus on neighborhood safety. I believe the following initiatives could help.

- **Explore the Feasibility of the Public Safety Property Tax Credit.** The Maryland General Assembly passed legislation that allows Baltimore County to enact a property tax credit for police, firefighters, and other public safety employees. This tax credit might help with recruitment, and it could encourage police officers to live in Baltimore County neighborhoods.

- **Expand the Citizens on Patrol Program.** In November, I hosted a town hall meeting that focused on public safety. [We brought in representatives from the Towson Area Citizens on Patrol program](#), one of the most successful neighborhood initiatives of its kind. If your community would like to start a COP program, please contact our office.



- **More Police Officers on the Streets.** Ultimately, the County Executive's budget needs to include funding for more police positions—and we need to strengthen our collaboration with our state and federal counterparts.

## **GROUND BROKEN ON PERRY HALL'S FIRST NEW SCHOOL IN A QUARTER-CENTURY**

Baltimore County broke ground on the first of three new schools in northeastern Baltimore County—and Perry Hall's first new school in a quarter-century. The \$49 million school is expected to serve 725 students in central Perry Hall. It will open next September.



## WORK TO BEGIN IN SPRING ON RADEBAUGH PARK

Radebaugh Neighborhood Park is one of eight new parks that have advanced in the Fifth District since 2010. Last year, the Green Towson Alliance and Councilman David Marks sponsored a community input meeting to consider ideas for this property, which is located south of Burke Avenue.

Baltimore County will begin work on this site in the spring. [The structures on the site will be completely removed, including foundations, and the land will be graded to accommodate many of the functions identified at the community input meeting.](#)

The contract will be put out to bid this spring. The community will then help raise funds and implement many of the features at the park.



## LOCAL SCHOOLS TO HOST ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIRS

Stoneleigh Elementary School's PTA will hold a Winter Craft Fair on Saturday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/stoneleighwintercraftfair/>

The Perry Hall High School PTSA will sponsor its Winter Arts and Crafts Fair on Sunday, December 3 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with more than 100 vendors. Admission is free. For a list of participants, please

visit [www.phhsptsa.org/craftfair](http://www.phhsptsa.org/craftfair).

## NEW TRASH AND RECYCLING SCHEDULES TO BE MAILED

In early December, Baltimore County will mail new trash and recycling collection schedules to single-family homes. These four-year schedules cover the period from 2018 through 2021, and contain specific collection day information for each address in the County. As different areas can have different collection days, it is important that residents read and retain this important document to reference over the next four years.

County residents living in single-family homes who do not receive their schedule by December 24 may call the Bureau of Solid Waste Management at (410) 887-2000 for assistance. Schedules will also be available for download [on the County's website](#) starting January 1, 2018.

In addition to the schedules themselves, this mailing will include the County's trash and recycling program guide. This important resource contains instructions for collection holidays, set-out regulations, a recycling guide, drop-off information and more.

## METERED PARKING FREE FROM DECEMBER 20 TO 25

Baltimore County will offer area shoppers two hours of free parking at all street meters and metered County parking lots during its Holiday Free Meter Parking Program. For the winter holiday, the program extends from Sunday, December 20 through Saturday, December 25 in shopping districts around the county. Red "Seasons Greetings Free Parking" meter bags will be placed over the meters on the designated days. The county asks patrons to consider parking for two hours or less so that more people will have the opportunity to enjoy this offering during the holiday season.

***Happy Holidays and Best Wishes  
for a Safe New Year***